

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN-NORTH BROOKLYN

INCLUDING CARROLL GARDENS, COOKS HILL, BOROUGH HILL, FORT GREENE, CLINTON HILL, SUMMER, WILLIAMSBURG AND GREENPOINT

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The \$5 Coke (in this case, Diet Coke) at the Five Spot on Myrtle Avenue.

THIS COKE IS \$5 For 25-ounce soda, Ft. Greene restaurant lives up to its name

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

They don't call it "The Five Spot" for nothing — because this otherwise reasonably priced Myrtle Avenue soul-food restaurant is now charging \$5 for a soda.

Yes, \$5 for a large Sprite, Coke or root beer — the same price as about a gallon and a half of gas; two and a half shares of Bear Stearns or a Barnes and No-

ble classic copy of "Macbeth."

The spot's new menu, more than a Coke and a root beer at the Five Spot, one of the most-expensive restaurants in Brooklyn.

Surprised? So was Kate Myers, who dined with her husband and 5-year-old son at the Five Spot on Sunday, March 9.

The family walked into the restaurant, at Washington Avenue, at about 3:30 pm, and ordered two notably reasonably priced en-

tries: a Chicken (\$6.90), Crispy Chicken Fingers (\$6.90), the Five Spot Fish N Chips (\$7.95). And they ordered three drinks: one vodka tonic (\$8), Brooklyn Lager (\$8), and a Sprite for Myers.

Lest you think the high price for soft drinks mugs, think again. There are no refills — which Myers discovered when she ordered her son a second soda.

"The bill came and we saw there were \$10 worth of Sprites," said Myers, still in disbelief. "I asked the server, 'Is that all?' and he said, 'Yes, it's \$10.' I would have thought it was too much. I travel a lot for my job, and for room service, I don't pay over \$5."

Myers' husband, the owner of Five Spot, does have an explanation — sorts — for the price charges for a soda.

"Our drinks are, like, 25 ounces," said Armstrong. "But most places give people only one eight- 12-, or 16-ounce glass."

Indeed, two Brooklyn Paper reporters confirmed that the \$5 sodas were served in larger-than-usual glasses. A closer inspection revealed that said glasses were filled with quite a bit of ice and had a false bottom.

Myers claims that her son's sodas were served in tumbler glasses. See \$5 on page 15



Big problems at back office Bear Stearns crisis hits Jay St

By Emily Lavin
The Brooklyn Paper

From the implosion of Bear Stearns to being felt all over the world — and as close as Jay Street in Downtown Brooklyn.

From the middle-aged back-office workers who are convinced she's "unemployable" to the 15-year-old male counterparts, to the 15-year-old workers whose anger at the company bosses who "made some bad choices" that will almost certainly lead to him losing his job, most of the 1,500 based at

Bear Stearns' back offices in the Metrotech complex are facing dim futures.

"We're all fearful of not being able to find anything better if we get fired," added a female worker.

It's unlikely another Bear will maintain its Metrotech offices, but insiders say it's unlikely given that new owner, JP Morgan Chase, owns the building and has called it a "false bottom."

As a result, workers are filled with dread, fear and a sudden urge to brush off their resumes. Here are their stories:

THE CASTOFF

Susan Locicero, who works in the operations office, said that she and her co-workers expect that half of the company's Brooklyn employees will be laid off soon. And that puts her — a middle-aged woman — at a disadvantage, she said.

"I'm 53 years old — and that's a huge problem," Locicero said, adding that she is not alone in the lack of middle-aged women in the company's back offices. "We're not as employable."

Locicero, who lives in Bay Ridge, entered the workforce in 1982 and slowly worked her way into her position with Bear Stearns.

"I've gotten through women's rights and struggled to get men to see that we are competent and worthy," Locicero said. "It's made it even more disconcerting when the jobs were searching a few years ago and saw countless older men get jobs at companies where she was told she was too old to succeed."

"I've worked all my life. I'm a damn good at my job," Locicero said. "And it's ridiculous that a 53-year-old man who is equally or less qualified has a better chance than I do at getting a new job."

See BEAR on page 16

Raise a glass to (and of) Obama

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Some polls show that Barack Obama's campaign may be losing momentum — but Mr. Gallup and Mr. Zogby might want to drop by one Fourth Avenue bar, where the nation's first Barack Obama ale is selling as fast as beer.

The Red Hook microbrewery Six-point Craft Ales is taking the optimism and hope behind the Illinois senator's longshot campaign and channeling it into self-destructive behavior with its "Hop Obama" ale, which sells throughout the borough (if you can find it).

The brewery echoes Obama's own campaign themes by calling its new creation "an indefinable ale that doesn't ad-

See OBAMA on page 16

JUDGES FIGHTING FOR FREE PARKING

Will sue city to keep spaces in park

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

A group of Brooklyn judges is preparing to sue the city to preserve its parking privileges in a park next to Borough Hall, claiming that the removal of 20 or so spaces will endanger the judges' sit, because the nearest garage is two blocks away.

The parking lot, at the corner of Joralemon and Adams streets, is within Columbus Park. The judges also park their cars on a public walkway next to the lot, but the Parks Department now says that the judges will lose those spaces this spring.

The 20 or so judges who park their vehicles in that section of the park would have to journey two blocks to an underground garage at 330 Jay St. The judges and their supporters claim that's a sacrifice.

"You can characterize this as a number of judges whining about privileges, or you can take a step back and recall the kind of world we live in now, where the concern is the kind of danger they're being asked to endure," said Councilman Lew Fidler (D-Camars).

As an example, Fidler cited some racist graf-

See JUDGES on page 16



Members of Transportation Alternatives donned judges robes to protest court officials who insist on parking their cars in a public park next to Borough Hall.

WHINE CONNOISSEURS Many theories why Williamsburg leads city in 311 calls



Williamsburg and Greenpoint lead Brooklyn in the number of complaints phoned in to the city's 311 system — and everyone, including (from left) John Moore, Evan Sobel, John Curry, Stephanie Monseu, has his own theory.

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Williamsburg and Greenpoint residents are the biggest complainers in the borough, new statistics show — and the data has locals wondering who is doing the complaining.

Residents filed a whining 8,900 complaints through 311 since July, according to Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications statistics. 500 more reports than the next two neighborhoods, Brooklyn Center and the 3,000 more complaints from supposedly whiny Park Slope, and almost three times as many grumbles as hustling, bustling Coney Island.

Who's to blame for all the whining?

The people who are griping are the residents who just moved here and aren't ready to actually live in the city," said Josh Neikin, an engineer who has lived in Greenpoint for the past two and a half years. "It's the new kids who are moving here, paying their rent — they're the whiners, not the long-time residents."

Forget the kids — it's the Yuppies who are to blame, others said. "With all of the cops going up, I bet all the Yuppies are moving from Manhattan that are complaining so much," said John Moore, who was recently evicted from his loft in the artist-

friendly building at 475 Kent Ave.

Michelle Azaruya, a Williamsburg resident for the past three years, agreed.

"I've noticed a whole new sort of people moving in — maybe they're the ones complaining because they're trying to clean up Williamsburg," Azaruya said.

Others argue that you can't blame just the young artists or the slightly older professionals — you have to blame them both.

"I'm a yuppie and the Yuppies that live here think they're privileged," said musician Evan Sobel. "They think they're entitled to things, so they whine and whine."

And whine and whine they did.

Over the past eight months, Williamsburg and Greenpoint residents called the city to complain about everything from unleashed dogs and disorderly youth to illegal fireworks and public urination, but the biggest grievance in the neighborhood is noise, with residents filing 4,176 complaints — an average of 16.4 per day.

The most annoying noises in the neighborhood come from the residents themselves, with North Brooklynites calling the 1,500 times to complain about residential noise.

"I certainly complained about noise when I lived there," said Samson See WHINERS on page 16



John Rauschenberg, who is one of the owners of Pacific Standard, draws a pint of Hop Obama, the popular new brew.

He flashed pol's wife

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

For the second time in a week, a man was caught in the act of assaulting a woman in Brooklyn.

Kimberly Recchia had just gotten out of her car near the corner of 16th Avenue and 65th Street at around 7:10 pm, when a man in a black hoodie and dark sweatpants

approached her and flashed his penis, Recchia and the man struggled, but she managed to honk the horn, scaring off the man.

Police described him as white, 5-foot-7 with medium build.

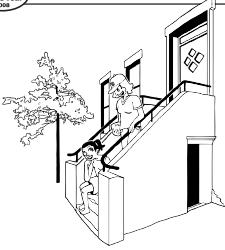
The suspect, identified as a member of the Democratic nomination, so he can face Rep. Vito Fossella in the fall, would not comment about the incident.

It's been a difficult two weeks for Recchia. On Monday, March 10, he failed to show up for a scheduled debate with Rep. Vito Fossella, Steve Harrison.

At the time, Recchia's defense said one of the councilman's three daughters was ill.

Anyone with information about Monday's attack is asked to call (800) 577-8477.





THE STOOP

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Nabe 'trashes' Park Slope

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Downtown Brooklyn's community board wants to keep its trash trucks in neighboring Gowanus.

The neighborhood's powerful CB2 rejected a city plan to move a garbage truck parking lot onto its turf, even though every neighborhood in the city is involved in a deal for dealing with its own garbage within its district boundary.

In trashing the Department of Sanitation proposal, CB2 refused to relocate the Second Avenue garage, which sits in CB6, to the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which is a part of CB2.



Garbage trucks in this Park Slope-area depot actually service Brooklyn Heights — where they should be parked under city rules. But the powerful neighborhood to the north keeps shirking its responsibility to have its own Sanitation garage.

District Manager Rob Perris downplayed the notion that Brooklyn Heights' rest of CB2 was pulling out to stop to keep the garbage trucks off their streets, stating that the board opposed the plan because the Navy Yard is the "cleaning place."

"The Navy Yard is a very successful industrial park that is home to hundreds of quality jobs," said Perris. "Locating the sanitation garage would be contrary to that mission."

"Every square foot that is a sanitation garage takes up is a square foot that can't be used for quality private-sector jobs," Perris said.

A Navy Yard spokesman

said the industrial park was pleased.

"The CB2 resolution speaks for itself and we echo their position that the site ... has been identified," said spokesman Matthew Lipani.

The CB2 garage has been

between 14th and 15th streets for at least the past 18 years, according to CB2 District Manager Christopher O'Conor, whose board's sanitation garage is only blocks away at Second Avenue between 11th and 12th streets.

The department responded to the Department of Sanitation every year that the thought was it was their responsibility to relocate the garage to an appropriate site within CB2.

"It's certainly louder and busier here than it would be if they moved the garage," said Matt Lipani.

Others think it's just another case of the city forcing their corner of Brooklyn to do other neighborhoods' dirty work.

"Gowanus and Red Hook absorb a lot of industry from the rest of the city, so having the garage doesn't strike me as inconsistent at all," said Rachel Foullon of Red Hook.

"It's a departmental item on our agenda," she said.

"Although the Department

would like to have each district garage located in the community district it serves, no suitable alternative site ... has been identified," said Lipani.

Matthew Lipani

WILLIAMSBURG

Con-Ed con-dos?

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Sudden construction activity at a long-dormant Con Ed power plant in Kent Avenue set off immediate alarms in a neighborhood already wary of the arrival of more luxury condo towers.

The Gothic-style Division Street plant has been dormant since the late 1990s, but it's been buzzing in recent weeks, as workers have covered it in scaffolding and ripped several large holes in the walls.

Con Ed maintains that it is

performing routine cleaning, but many in the neighborhood believe that the energy giant is preparing to demolish the 102-year-old building so it can put the waterfront development site on the market.

"We're just cleaning up the site," said Con Ed spokesman Bob McGee. "There's a lot of speculation, but we're just cleaning up. There are no plans for development at this site."

But that hasn't deterred

investors, which were also fueled by

recollections of a similar Con



An old Con Ed power plant on the hot Williamsburg waterfront may be demolished.

Ed plant on the East Side was sold in 2000.

In that case, Con Edison did not level the nine-acre tract before the sale to developer Sheldon Solow, who was able to purchase it for \$630 million.

He's now building a \$4-billion project on the site.

The Kent Avenue plant rests on a lot that is slightly larger than a city block, and its waterfront location could make it equally desirable for developers.

FORT GREENE

What you're looking for

Retail survey shows big needs

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

Fort Greene needs a bookstore, a baker and the modern equivalent of a hardware store.

That's a central finding of

the Fort Greene Retail Survey, which asked 300 people what they most wanted to see in the neighborhood — and the result was a fairly uniform frustration with the current retail options.

"We're not just in the upscale part of Fort Greene," said Steve Sachs, a member of the polling committee.

He's a quick rundown of the results.

• In the "retail" category, 74 percent of respondents said they wanted, above all else, a bookstore — something Sachs attributes to the "artistic and eclectic feel" of the neighborhood. For books, for bibles, for puzzles, Jessica Storchini, a minute, the recent winner of a small business award from the Brooklyn Public Library, is considering opening up a bookstore in Fort Greene.

• Fifty-four percent of respondents said they also like a seafood store. Clearly, there is more demand than Duncan's Fish Market, on Myrtle Avenue between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues, can handle.

• In the "restaurant" category, a bakery and a deli, and 46 percent said the neighborhood needed a 24-hour diner.

• In the "services" category, a laundry store was the top item among 54 percent of those surveyed. A laundromat was cited by 43 percent of respondents. In an unrelated development, a Carter-Federal Savings Bank is opening on Myrtle Avenue, the second branch of the second bank in the neighborhood.

• African-Americans ranked supermarkets as their first choice.

Most horrifyingly (for Fort Greene business owners, that is) was this finding: Eighty-three percent of residents said they go to other neighborhoods — or to Manhattan! — for better retail options.

Ludlow Beckett, the owner of Yu, a Greene Avenue home furnishings shop, said he wasn't surprised by the latter.

"A lot of people leave their shopping outside the area," said Beckett, who has owned Yu for eight years.

Part of it is the new residents of Brooklyn Heights, Manhattan and that is where they work or where they're accustomed to shopping.

That may be changing. After all, the new Whole Foods Terminus is the chain's busiest store in the country — and the company is adding a second target in a new high-rise that's under construction on nearby Flushing Avenue Extension near Dekalb Avenue.



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Heights church is the scene of this crime

The Brooklyn Paper

84th Precinct**B'klyn Heights, DUMBO, Downtown, Boerum Hill**

A woman's wallet was stolen from a Metro PCS store on Myrtle Ave. at 12.

The 40-year-old woman was picking her child up from daycare at the house of worship, between Clinton and Pierrepont streets, at 6:30 p.m. When she retrieved her bag from the floor, she discovered her wallet, and \$35, was missing.

Bank rob

A note-passing robber stole \$5,000 from a Bank of America branch on Myrtle Ave.

The thief entered the HSBC branch between Clinton and Court streets at around noon and, after robbing the tellers, when he refused, punched him in the face, cutting him above the eye. The alteration ended in the corner, causing the teller to flee.

Cash cans

A Jay Street business was burgled last weekend, netting a smorgasbord of valuables, including the receipt book.

The thief broke open the locked front door sometime between 5 p.m. on March 8 and 10:15 a.m. on March 9, cops said. Once inside, he busked, which is between John and Plymouth streets, he helped himself

altered her supervisor that she was being held up.

Flushed with \$5,100 bills, the robber calmly exited the bank.

Hit and run

A mugger violently attempted to rob a man on March 10 at the corner of Front and Bridge streets.

The hoodlum approached the 22-year-old man at around 7:10 p.m. on the DUMBO corner and told him to "get down on the ground." When he refused, the mugger punched him in the face, cutting him above the eye. The alteration ended in the corner, causing the thief to flee.

Police blotter

Two more police impersonators struck on March 14, showing up to a St. James Place apartment with a "gun" — telling our firearms, threatening their victim and walking off with some of his valuables.

In what has become a frequent occurrence, two men in their mid-30s claimed to be officers and entered the apartment, which is between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues, at around 9:15 p.m.

They even said they had a warrant in the 33-year-old tenant's name. Suddenly, they

POLICE BLOTER

to power took two Canon cameras and several watches, then also swiped \$1.

— Mike McLaughlin

88th Precinct**Fort Greene, Clinton Hill**

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mouth streets, he helped himself

each drew a gun and put the tenant in handcuffs.

They ultimately walked off with \$1,500 and a pair of diamond earrings, cops said.

Bullies suck

Bullies beat up a student leaving a respected Clinton Hill Place restaurant on March 11.

The 16-year-old boy, residing at the DeKalb at Lafayette, was exiting the building at DeKalb Avenue, at 5:05 p.m. when five guys — three of whom he recognized — approached him.

"Who, him?" asked one of the guys, according to cops.

He punched him in the face, knocking him to the floor, and then punching him in the face same more.

Another mug

A hoodlum mugged a Clinton Avenue man from behind on March 16.

The victim was walking near the corner of Willoughby and Clinton, when he was struck in the face, knocking him to the floor, and then punching him in the face same more.

He lost \$800

He lost \$800, a Sidekick cell-phone, and his driver's license.

Catch carjacker

Cops arrested two guys for allegedly stealing a Mercedes-Benz from an Atlantic Avenue car wash on March 16.

The owner of the 2003 vehicle said a man riding a black 2007 Kawasaki motorcycle, with a California license, between Vanderbilt and Clinton avenues, at around 4:40 p.m., parked the bike on the sidewalk and borrowed the Benz as it was walking away.

Cops later arrested two suspects for the crime, one 22 years old and the other 24.

— Dana Rubinstein

pin when the perp approached her from behind.

Her grabbed her purse, gesturing with what appeared to be a black pistol, and said, "Let's go." She released, and the perp kept walking south towards Union Street.

Minutes later, police said, he tried to mug a woman on nearby Union Street. But in this case, when he hit her over the head with the "gun," it broke in half.

Cops recovered the evidence — the first victim's now-empty wallet — from the crime scene. The 29-year-old woman told cops that it had once contained her cellphone, checkbook, car gift card and credit card and her Metro Stewart ID card.

There was a brief struggle, during which the thief punched the man over the head several times, before he fled.

— Gersh Kuntzman

Card job

A mugger broke a man's bank card in a bank manager on Fifth Avenue on March 10.

The 12th Avenue man told cops that he had been walking between Berkley Place and Union Street, across Slope's popular restaurant row, at around dinner time when the perp approached, stuck his hand in his pocket and pulled out the bank card.

It was a brief struggle, during which the thief punched the man over the head several times, before he fled.

— Gersh Kuntzman

90th Precinct**Williamsburg, Bushwick**

A jewel thief got away with nearly a half hour breaking into a Third Street apartment on March 14.

Cops said that the thief entered the apartment, which is between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West, when the tenant was at work.

Then the 35-year-old victim returned home at 5:35 p.m. and discovered that his once-locked front door was wide open and his door was missing.

The thief also got away with a laptop computer and monitor, and a car key.

Bite of Apple

A thief stole a woman's Apple laptop from a 12th Street apartment on Second Street on March 15.

The man approached their victim just after midnight near the corner of Willoughby and Second Street on March 16.

"Where's the bread?" one of the crooks asked. "Where's your phone?"

With hands scratched and bloodied from the shove, the thief took over his Sidekick cellphone, his wallet, and a faint watch.

— Ben Muessig

78th Precinct**Park Slope**

Martha mug

A co-worker of domestic doyenne Martha Stewart was mugged at a car wash on March 16 — though she didn't know that she was a target.

The first report came on March 12, when a 28-year-old Butler Street man told cops that a man was mugging him in his name.

The man said he was 30 years old.

Three days later, a 31-year-old woman from Brooklyn told cops that she was mugged at a car wash on March 16 — though she didn't know that she was a target.

Police said that the woman, who lives on Preston Street and Nevins Street at around 10:30

pm, was mugged in the 78th Precinct, Det. Tony Shy is on the job.

— Dana Rubinstein

94th Precinct**Greenpoint, Williamsburg**

Berry bad

Two men — each armed with a combat knife — burst into a Berry Street liquor store on March 15 and made off with thousands of dollars.

The gun-toting crooks entered the store just before 6 p.m., showed entries to the general manager and pressed their revolvers to the workers' heads.

— Ben Muessig

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He's the new Weatherman

Quirky Slope storm chaser breaks silence about hobby

As I write this on a rainy Wednesday, the current temperature is 47.3 degrees, the wind is out of the east at 3.3 miles per hour, and we've already gotten .55 inches of precipitation.

His barometer is falling and will be in exactly seven hours and 24 minutes.

I know all this because Bradley Feldman has posted it on a quirky Web site that has become the Internet's biggest breakout new Obsessive gift.

Since November, when he launched the "Park Slope weather" page on his family Web site, www.bradleyonthecoin.com, Feldman has been tracking every single one of the (rainy) streets of the neighborhood (elevation

THE BROOKLYN ANGLE
By Gersh Kuntzman

95 feet, by the way).

His site — remember, this is just a hobby — reads: "People in Park Slope — gets more than 1,400 hits a day."

"There seem to be people out there who don't like the National Weather Service for whatever reason, so I would rather get something local and offbeat," Feldman explained.

"But honestly, I can't explain the phenomenon."

I can. In an age of RSS feeds that push news stories right into your laptop, satellite-guided navigation systems that tell you get lost, and pre-pack-



Bradley Feldman is the man behind Park Slope's hobby new weather Web site.

A hate crime in Park Slope

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper



Rabbi Shimon Hecht (l) with beating victim Uriya Ohana. Photo: Brooklyn Paper

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Stop the war

More than 100 anti-war activists gathered in Grand Army Plaza on Wednesday night to mark the fifth anniversary of the war in Iraq and to remember the nearly 4,000 Americans and thousands of Iraqis who have been killed since March 19, 2003. The protest continued with a march down Flatbush Avenue and ended with a vigil at the Army recruiting station on Livingston Street. Earlier in the day, President Bush defended the decision to invade Iraq: "Removing Saddam Hussein from power was the right decision, and this is a fight that America can and must win." — *Dana Rubinstein*

Yards foes to picket Ratner

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

Yards foes to picket Ratner — some of them Brooklyn Museum members — will picket the Museum's April 3 gala to protest the institution's decision to honor developer Bruce Ratner.

"Honoring Ratner is entirely inappropriate," said Michael White, a Brooklyn Heights-based urban planner. "Many Museum member and Yards opponents...

"Part of the job of public institutions with nonprofit missions like the Brooklyn Museum is to be a good neighbor," said White. "You don't accomplish that by honoring someone who has been a bad neighbor."

Brooklyn Museum spokeswoman Sally Williams countered that Ratner had, in fact, been a very good neighbor.

"Bruce C. Ratner is being honored ... in recognition of his longstanding support of

attracted candidates who say all the things that the hobby groups don't want to say. People are crying out for something fresh, something that looks handmade."

Culling together bits of hobbyist software and knowledge gleaned from years as an amateur radio enthusiast, Feldman's site has the democratized feel of secretly obtained National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration data base. And it's working: "We've received reports that a pilot might rip off the wire machine seconds before closing the cockpit door."

Feldman even solders his own circuit boards — and that

attention to detail is part of the charm, said to less than authority than Louise Crawford of "Only the Blog Knows Brooklyn."

"I was just thrilled to find a site that would give me the chance to be a weatherman without having to put in my ZIP code," said Crawford, who links to Feldman's "weather station" on her blog every day. "It's so nice to have a resource to go to."

It makes Park Slope feel even more like this self-contained little universe."

See the site at www.bradleyonthecoin.com/weather/weather.htm or through a link at www.BrooklynPaper.com.

Rabbi Shimon Hecht (l) with beating victim Uriya Ohana. Photo: Brooklyn Paper

Rabbi Shimon Hecht (l) with beating victim Uriya Ohana. Photo: Brooklyn Paper

When Uriya Ohana, 25, entered the train station at Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street at around 11:15 p.m. Ali Hussein, 36, from Iraq, and Hussein's friends started punching him and shouting "Allahu Akbar" — Arabic for "God is great" — before jumping into a sedan and escaping. Hussein was not so lucky. He darted onto Fourth Avenue, where a Volvo smashed into him, fracturing his leg.

Rabbi Shimon Hecht of Congregation Yeshua Jacob on Ninth Street in Park Slope said the attack should be considered a hate crime because of the use of the phrase. At a press conference at the shul on Wednesday night, Borough President Markowitz agreed.

"A hate crime against one of us is a hate crime against all of us," said Markowitz.

Ohana, who splits time between Crown Heights and Massachusetts, was uninjured, but remains shaken. "I feel less secure in Park Slope, which is a place I like very much," Ohana said.

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OUR OPINION

Judges out of order

The Parks Department has wisely moved to stop a dozen judges from parking their cars in Columbus Park next to Borough Hall and the state Supreme Court building.

This intolerable situation — judges parking their private vehicles on a pedestrian walkway in a city park — has gone on far too long. Even as Columbus Park has been spruced up, at great expense, the judges have been allowed to continue to commandeer not only clearly designated parkland, but the mostly paved walkway next to it.

Now the judges are learning to set the city to retain that privilege.

Imagine: Judges suing the city. To retain parking spaces that they never should have been given in the first place. Someone needs to step in right now and remind the judges of two of

their favorite words: "Case dismissed!"

The threat of a lawsuit is not without some irony: it's absurd for judges — some are public servants — to remind you — to sue the city that pays them.

And it's not as if the judges won't already promised them a spot in a garage two blocks from their court judge.

Given how much anger the public has for public servants who get city-issued parking passes or "on-duty" placards that let them park wherever the hell they want, it's amazing that the judges have any support for their cause.

"You can characterize this as judges whining about privileges — or you can take a step back, recall the kind of world we live in now, and consider the kind of danger they're being asked to

endure," said Councilman Fidler in defense of the judges.

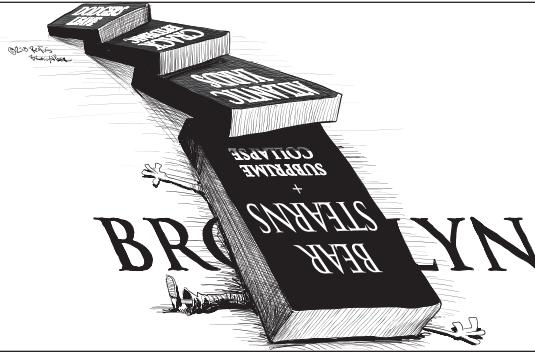
"Dumb?" Walking two blocks from their new free parking lot instead of a half-block from their old free parking lot? And how many tell, is the world we live in any more dangerous than the world of the 1970s or even the 1870s?

And with all due respect to Councilman Fidler, no judge is "being asked to endure" anything. These judges sought these efficient offices themselves.

We suggest that if the judges are afraid to walk the streets of their city, they should consider a new line of work.

Then again, if they're merely upset about losing their free parking, they have another viable choice: they can ride the subway or bus with the rest of us.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Matt Tamm

LETTERS

Readers go batty over our dog adoption story

To the editor,

At a time when our nation's animal shelters are bursting at the seams, the much-needed Brooklyn Animal Foster Network has been banned by the city from a city park. Ban on Silvercup could mean death for pound dogs." (March 15). This is especially tragic because the Network worked tirelessly to find homes for hard-to-place dogs.

The city is eight years behind on a commitment to build two new shelters and the crisis for shelter animals is getting worse.

Animal Care and Control Director Charlene Pedrotti should restrain this fine organization immediately. Failure to do so means certain death for these creatures.

Is that what she wants as her legacy?

Wayne Johnson, Brooklyn Heights

Send a letter

By e-mail: Letters@brooklynpaper.com
By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper,
55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number. Letters from Brooklyn and the neighborhood are published with the letter. Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

To the editor,

A recent article in the Brooklyn Paper, "The Animal Yards," was dire. Because of your bruised feelings and eggs, dozens of innocent dogs will suffer death, as Bleier's group will be denied access to them.

Sure, Bleier is direct and maybe abrasive — but she has a point. She must pre-screen anyone who wants to adopt the dogs and in her case, we must give you the right dog and not one who is troubling your comfort with your group. There are no screenings of those to whom you hand off your adopted dog. In fact, the Michael Wicks of the world use this opportunity to get away for alcohol and death.

I adopted a pit bull from Bleier's group. The puppy is lovable and is part of our family. Lauri told me at first that she was not going to give me the dog because I seemed to be giving him more attention than filing a lawsuit against her. I sucked it up and told her that I was glad she relented.

Bleier should be commended for her selflessness in working in hundreds of dogs, many of whom will die for the sake of those who complain.

Rick Pantone, Park Slope

To the editor,

It is tragic that the city chose to cut off Bleier's group simply because the new head of the Center for Animal Care and Control

can't get along with Bleier.

The animals whose lives are now compromised need Bleier and CACC to get along.

Karen Dattilo, Carroll Gardens

Ratner's lies

To the editor,

Forest Ratner will not correct misrepresentations, but is Atlanta Yards' website headed to be truthful? ("Another Ratner lie?" Gehry was NOT born in Brooklyn," March 15).

The Gehry misrepresentation is a case in point.

The Web site also still misrepresents that the mega-development will be "primarily situated over the MTA/LIRR's Vanderbilt Rail Yards." In fact, only 40 percent of the mega-development is on the rail yards.

Let me add: Ratner's misrepresentations of any kind — but nobody was killed by his bad judgment. Hillary's decision led to the death of hundreds of thousands, yet only is she still in office, but she is being helped in her presidential campaign by Clarke and Towns, who say they are against the war.

Stop delegating

To the editor,

In 1983, the Democratic Party amended its delegate structure to allow "Superdelegates" to override regular party members' primary votes.

George McGovern, who was one of the designers of the system, said that this was to avoid putting a candidate forward who had no chance of beating the Republican nominee. The system was used in the 1984 election rigging by party insiders ("Hi! It's Bklyn superdelegates to rescue," March 15).

Most people who voted in Ed Towns's and Yvette Clarke's districts — where Obama won decisively — are unaware that both lawmakers have pledged to vote for Hillary

Clinton, effectively zeroing out their constituent's votes at the upcoming Democratic National Convention.

Do these two "representatives" feel entitled to the right to cancel out all of our votes by voting against our choice?

Many of us pledged to never vote for Hillary again after she voted for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis when she was for the Iraq war in order to maintain her viability as a Democratic presidential candidate.

George McGovern was killed by his bad judgment — but nobody was killed by his bad judgment. Hillary's decision led to the death of hundreds of thousands, yet only is she still in office, but she is being helped in her presidential campaign by Clarke and Towns, who say they are against the war.

This is a moral issue. I encourage Towns and Clarke to change their votes to support Obama. If they do not change their position, then I would also encourage Brooklynites to work against them in their next primaries.

We cannot have "representatives" who represent against us. Our vote for Obama is clear, and so is their willingness to erase that vote. Let them call or send an e-mail and remind them whom they work for. Hint: it's not Hillary.

Steve De Sève, Brooklyn Heights

Honor Ratner?

To the editor,

I am outraged that the honored guest at the Brooklyn Museum's annual ball is Bruce Ratner ("B'klyn Museum honors Ratner," March 15).

The Museum, in the past, has denied its facilities to events that were deemed "too political" or "too controversial." Yet, although Ratner's Atlantic Yards project has torn up the Brooklyn community, he gets the Augustus Graham Medal, "the Museum's highest honor."

Could it possibly be that the Museum is setting aside its rule about controversy because Ratner raises more money than the Museum's coffers? Or is he being too nice?

Clem Labine, Park Slope

CORRECTIONS

A front-page article last week about penthouse apartments at One Hanson Place ("Brooklyn's Six-Month-Old View") was incorrect.

Veronica's comments, in fact, were made in 2006 about her building, not her building's sister building.

Brenda Vermich of Striving & Associates, was comparing her building to One Brooklyn Bridge Park, another

erly luxury building represented by her company.

Vermich's comments, in fact, were made in 2006 about her building, not her building's sister building.

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But it should not be used as a comparison to the other building. The Brooklyn Paper regrets the confusion.

Last week's front-page

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Last week's front-page

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

March 22, 2008

'Field' of dreams

Heights rock club will be a memory after week-long celebration

By Adam Rathe
The Brooklyn Paper

Last week at the South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas, Brooklyn bands were everywhere. From up-and-coming acts like Williamsburg's S-S-Spectres to major-label artists like Park Slope's MGMT, the borough was well represented to the music elite. Lee Greenfield, owner of the Brooklyn Heights rock club Magnetic Field, was in Austin, too — managing bands that were playing the festival — but for the first time in five years, he wasn't looking for acts to bring back to Astoria.

On March 31, Magnetic Field will close after more than five years, leaving Brooklyn Heights without a venue for live rock music. "I grew up in the Heights, and I always want to go to a neighborhood bar," Greenfield told GO Brooklyn. "There was always a dearth of venues when I was growing up, and even in my 20s, you had to go to the city for music, but luckily that's changed in the past few years."

Opened in December 2002 by William Crane, the club was meant to breathe life into the Brooklyn Heights nightife scene, to mirror what Southpaw had done two years earlier on Fifth Avenue.

"They were on the cutting edge of being a live venue in our immediate area," said Brooklyn Heights Blog publisher Homer Fink. "That was an important aspect, that they embraced live music and there's something that you probably won't replace."

Starting out as a booker and eventually becoming a partner in the venue, Greenfield booked then-unknown bands like Voxnot and The Black Lips and also brought in the borough's bartenders and rock trivia with a night of reading series.

"My pool league met there on Monday nights, but I would go on the weekends as well," said James Van Cleave, a resident who still frequents the bar for the last year. "One of the reasons I loved having my pool team there was that they had an open DJ night, so when I was playing pool, I was also able to get time on the booth, and play whatever I liked."

The space is small by rock club standards, with narrow room height, a bar on one side and a set of booths, raised slightly off ground level, on the other.

"People are in the back of the space, but are moved out of the way on nights when bands are playing. This is a real rockers haunt, not a megahab, but he managed to attract top-tier bands and solid crowds throughout its lifetime."

Keeping a rock club running, however, requires more than just a keen ear for talent and a penchant for planning theme nights; it re-

MUSIC

"Closing Week Blow-Out" is March 24-30 at Magnetic Field, 97 Atlantic Ave. at Hicks Street in Brooklyn Heights. Tickets and prices vary. For information and a full schedule of events, call (718) 834-0069 or visit www.magneticbrooklyn.com.

and you end up scheduling the show. My day usually ends when it's getting light out."

He added, "A bar is kind of business where anything breaks, it's always a deal. There have been a lot of bad nights."

Not enough, though, to cancel out the good ones.

"People always seem to be enthusiastic and being that it was off the beaten path, people

Before San Francisco's Voxnot became indie rock darlings, they were part of their craft on stage at Magnetic Field in 2005.

Arguably the greatest garage rock band to ever come out of Brooklyn, The A-Bones reunited in 2004 after a decade apart and decided to play Magnetic Field's final time again.

Before the band got famous, they'd gained praise from Robin Stone of Spin for playing a dozen concerts in three

days at the 2007 South by Southwest music festival.



The Black Lips rocked at Magnetic Field in 2005.

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A fertile 'Field'

Since opening in 2003, Magnetic Field has played host to countless live bands. While some of them never made it any further than an opening spot at a neighborhood gig, some of the bands were launched to critical and commercial success, cover over. Lee Greenfield counts five of the shows, in no particular order, to hit his stage.

In 2006, The Flestones, one of the last remaining rock bands formed in 1980s New York, played its 30th anniversary show at Magnetic Field.



They were joined by Magnetic Field's own band The Dap Kings, and even throwing a surprise birthday party for his wife at the space.

"Lee and William have always had their fin-

gers on the pulse."

It's a kind of following amongst musicians and promoters: it's unusual to see a club owner walk away from his creation. For Crane and Greenfield, there just wasn't enough attraction left in Magnetic Field.

"William's a dad, and I manage bands, and it's been taking a lot of energy away from me," said Greenfield. "It's not been a job, and suddenly it's started veering toward that possibility." So, while clubs across the city are closing due to rent hikes or impossible-to-get insurance, the pair of interest, Magnetic Field is closing due to a lack of interest.

"We've had good landlords," said Greenfield. "It was just really time for a change. Keeping a club is a lot of work, and we really needed a change in the neighborhood."

For the final week, the club will host a slew of shows with bands including The A-Bones, Les Sacs Culotes, The Miscreants and more. But after the dust from that raucous week is settled, the bar will Brooklyn Heights rocker back to its roots.

Fink predicted that "most of the people who hung out there will probably just go hang out [across the street] at Last Exit."

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TV

Polish Easter

Carroll Gardens resident Terry Corrao knows her own family's dining traditions — on Christmas Eve, she makes the classic Italian seven-course fish feast — but it's the rituals of her neighbors that she's really hanging on to these days.

Debuting on Saturday, March 22, Corrao's new television show, "A Little Bit of Brooklyn," will feature the annual Polish Easter meal in Greenpoint, where Corrao, herself an accomplished chef, goes shopping and learns to cook with local Polish families.

"I was really smitten when I spent the weekend with them," she said GO Brooklyn. "We decorated the eggs and took the Easter basket to church for a blessing. It was very Old World."

Corrao hopes to continue exploring the borough's ethnic eating habits with future episodes.

"I'd like to do Little Odessa in Brighton Beach or feature the Norwegian community in Bay Ridge," she said. "The whole point is to see how families keep their traditions alive."

"A Little Bit of Brooklyn" will air at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm on March 22 on WLW-TV Channel 21. For information, visit www.wlwvg.org.

— Adam Rathe

ART



Beach party

Barbecue-happy Brooklynites aren't the only ones getting their backyard ready for summer. Over on Bond Street, photographer Robert DiScalfani is putting the finishing touches on the Bond House — as well as two floors of a 100-year-old building — that, on March 27, will open to the public as the Bond Street Gallery.

"I've been a photographer since I was 13 years old," said DiScalfani, a Carroll Gardens resident, "and as I went along in my career, I had an itch to open a photo gallery. I've been a rep for a certain team with his friend Bruce Kramer, a Los Angeles-based photo agent, and began renovating the Bond Street space into what they claim is the only photo-specific gallery in the borough."

The gallery's first show is "Coney Island of the Heart," a collection of Coney Island photos taken between 1946 and 2006, by artists including Harold Feinstein, whose "Blanket Toss" (1945) is pictured.

"We're doing a lot of different photo-specific shows, since the gallery is first for Brooklyn," said DiScalfani. "I think the neighborhood needs it."

"Coney Island of the Heart" will be on display from March 27 through May 1 at Bond Street Gallery (297 Bond St. at Union Street in Carroll Gardens). For information, call (718) 834-9350 or visit www.bondstreetgallery.com.

— Adam Rathe

NIGHTLIFE

Join the club

Raul Castro had been president of Cuba for three days before Nicole Davis mixed a drink after him. Made with two rum-based liqueurs and two rums, the "Cuba Libre" was one of two drinks being served on Feb. 27 when Davis, who runs BrooklynBased.net, hosted "The Cocktail Club," a monthly mixer aimed at getting her readers away from their computers and in front of one another.

"It's a great way to know people over e-mail and not meet them face to face," said Davis (pictured). "So the idea was to meet to meet these people I send these e-mails to."

The bar will change each month — March's event will be at Sidercar in Park Slope — but that night at Hooked Bar, a swanky cocktail lounge in Williamsburg, 40 readers showed up to mix, mingle and network.

"It's a great way to where people got to talk about their interests in a friendly, easygoing way. In addition to monthly meetings of "The Cocktail Club," Davis's site, which has been sending a bimonthly e-mail newsletter three times a week since May 2007, is also offering "Cocktail Club" membership across the borough.

"My goal in doing this is that we read about these places but had never made it there," said Davis. "Basically, this is an incentive to check out these bars you're hearing about but have never been to or tried."

"The Cocktail Club" will meet again at 8pm on March 26 at Sidercar (560 Fifth Ave. at 15th Street in Park Slope). For more information, visit www.brooklynbased.net.

— Adam Rathe

Bigger flavor

Austin's Steakhouse in Bay Ridge serves up fine beef with finesse

By Lisa J. Curtis
GO Brooklyn Editor

While I get as excited as the next foodie at the mention of a new fusion cuisine or imported ingredient, something I've had to do the mood for a classic great steak.

And when that happens again, I'll return to Austin's Steakhouse in Bay Ridge.

Since the other steak houses in Brooklyn, a main legendary Williamsburg institution leaps to mind — but Austin's dining room has a certain elegance where other beef emporiums stubbornly adhere to a rustic, testosterone-heavy ambience.

With its cozy, clubby banquets, rich homemade奔牛and signature Red Delicious apple martinis, Austin's is as perfect for a night out with the girls as it is for an anniversary. And at one of their candlelit tables, you'll be in

And while chef Fernando Pichardo — an alum of Manhattan's Mercer Kitchen — also offers a selection of fresh-seared diners you'd be a lobster tank hunting for eight-pound crustaceans on their way to the dining room — my husband and I were in the mood for seriously satisfying steaks and Austin's did not disappoint.

On a rainy Thursday night, I was grateful for the restaurant's air conditioning, and was warm and dry when I stepped into a booth and sipped my sweetly sour — think Jolly Rancher candies — apple juice and waited for my date to arrive. Open since 2003, the restaurant has a following. The tables around me filled with a group of young men and suited colleagues. (In the spring, patrons can enjoy happy hour in their outdoor cafe.)

A Austin's is a friendly, unfussy water-filled meal in on the recent visit to the restaurant by "Sopranos" star Lorraine Bracco, a.k.a. Dr. Melfi, who brought a wine and cheese pairing to a prominent collection of vino. While Austin's doesn't carry Bracco wines, they do have a hefty list to choose from.

Austin's offers a classic steakhouse menu with an Italian accent — fried calamari and fresh, homemade mozzarella are specialties.

We settled on "right" with an outrageous appetizer special we couldn't resist: finger-sized slabs of fat-rich bacon with dipping sauces of bleu cheese, remoulade and fresh tomatoes.

With bacon, the meaty, licking good and the dipping sauces are fun to taste and discuss. Austin's also offers truly light appetizers such as fish and chips with housemade dressings.

Pichardo's crabcakes are as large as your palm. The gener-



The big apple-tini: The signature cocktail at Austin's Steakhouse in Bay Ridge is a Red Delicious apple martini.

DINING

Austin's Steakhouse (8915 Fifth Ave. at 89th Street in Bay Ridge) accepts American Express, Diners, Master Visa, etc. \$20-\$95. The restaurant serves lunch Monday through Saturday, and daily. Subway: R train to 86th Street. For more information, call (718) 436-2222. www.austinsteakhouse.com

Pichardo explained that he's a fan of the Dungeness crab meat because of its consistent quality; now we're fans of his crab cakes, too.

Moving on to the main event, we opted for the "cowboy" steak — a rib eye on the bone — and a filet mignon.

The herding slabs of beef arrived with a side of tart sprinking of parsley and a good dousing in clarified butter. This restaurant is about the steak, and its narrow focus pays off.

The cowboy cut and the filet were tender, flavorful and generously sized.

Austin's offers the usual veggie and starch sides but has more than mastered the recipes. The creamed spinach is certainly on equal footing with that of Manhattan's Palme steakhouse. Rich, thick and creamy, it's a must-order.

The sweet, crispy, Herculean onion rings are equally habit-forming but even more craveably irresistible when dredged through the accompanying remoulade.

With bacon, the meaty, licking good and the dipping

sauces are fun to taste and discuss. Austin's also offers truly light appetizers such as fish and chips with housemade dressings.

Pichardo's crabcakes are as large as your palm. The gener-

CORRECTION

In the March 8, 2008 "Breaking Chews" column, we mistakenly reported that the Brick Oven Gallery in Williamsburg had closed. The restaurant is still open, and we regret the error.

"Oven: the right idea of combining a wine bar & designer pizza place; a good move in Brooklyn Heights"

— Tina Boni, The Brooklyn Paper

60 Henry Street
(at Cranberry Street)
718.237.8720
www.ovennewyork.com

Lunch & dinner Tuesday through Saturday, dinner on Sunday

"This new French Bistro is already bustling thanks to a solid kitchen, warm decor, and welcoming service."

— ZAGAT

LE PETIT MARCHÉ
The Little French Bistro in Brooklyn Heights
46 Henry Street (near Cranberry St.)
Brooklyn Heights • 718-858-9605 • www.BkBistro.com



1



2

A basket case

GO Brooklyn went hunting for Easter basket ingredients and returned with a treasure trove of delicious last-minute ideas to thrill the kids — or even the host of your Easter egg hunt. Add a sprinkle of shredded green paper and a few of these whimsical items to your basket for a heaven-sent gift.

1 Russ egg-shaped kaleidoscope, \$24.99, at DUMBO, (718) 246-4100; (5)

Jacques Torres' robin's eggs, \$9.50 for 10, at Jacques Torres, Water Street, Manhattan; and Dock street in DUMBO, (718) 875-9772; (6) JoMart Chocolate, 13-inch hollow bunny, \$23.50, and 6-ounce solid bunny, \$7.50, at JoMart Chocolate, 2917 Ave. R at Nostrand Avenue in Marine Park, (718) 375-1277; (7) Russ Grow-A-Chick sponge, \$2.99, at Kaleidoscope.

— Linnea Covington



7



8



3



5



4

All photos: The Brooklyn Paper / Jeff Bachner, except JoMart Chocolates: The Brooklyn Paper / Linnea Covington

**Brooklyn's Only Academic Orthopaedic Group
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Maimonides Good Health Message #3

Interesting reading for people under 50.

Must reading for people over 50.

Maimonides Medical Center is pleased to provide colorectal screening and treatment to all Brooklyn residents, regardless of their ability to pay.

Equipped with state-of-the-art technology, our new Endoscopy Center provides quality patient care and gives high priority to your comfort when you visit.

Call (718) 283-7352 for an appointment or more details.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT COLORECTAL CANCER:

1. WHAT IS COLORECTAL CANCER?

Colon and rectal cancer share many features and are often referred to as colorectal cancer, a disease in which cells in the colon or rectum become abnormal. Most of these cancers begin as abnormal tissue growths or polyps. Removing a polyp early may prevent it from becoming cancerous.

2. WHO IS AT RISK OF DEVELOPING COLORECTAL CANCER?

Colorectal cancer occurs in men and women of all racial and ethnic groups. People who are age 50 or older have the greatest risk of developing the disease. Also at risk are those with a family history of colorectal cancer or polyps, and those who suffer from certain diseases of the intestines, including ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. A person who has already had colorectal cancer is at increased risk of developing the disease a second time.

3. WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COLORECTAL CANCER?

In the early stages, colorectal cancer tends to be slow-growing and usually develops with few, if any, symptoms. Eventual symptoms can include blood in the stool; a change in bowel habits; stools that are narrower than usual; or unexplained stomach discomfort, frequent gas, pains or indigestion.

4. WHAT IS A COLONOSCOPY?

A colonoscopy is a painless, outpatient procedure that enables a doctor to examine the entire lining of the large intestine with a flexible instrument called a colonoscope. If any polyps are found, they can be removed during the procedure. The whole procedure usually takes less than 25 minutes.

5. WHY IS GETTING A COLONOSCOPY SO IMPORTANT?

Colorectal cancer screening can detect the early stages of cancer. Studies have shown that the removal of precancerous polyps during a colonoscopy reduces both cancer incidence and mortality.

6. HOW OFTEN SHOULD I GET SCREENED AND IS THE PROCEDURE COVERED BY INSURANCE?

All men and women 50 and older should have a colonoscopy every 10 years. Although insurance coverage varies, most plans help pay for screening tests for people over 50.



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Compassionate about people.

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To find the right doctor for you, call (888) MMC-DOCS (662-3627).

BROOKLYN

Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

BAY RIDGE

The Wicked Monk

8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-0601, www.wickedmonk.com. Thursday, Friday: 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.; Saturday, Sunday: 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. Day Veeas, 8 p.m.; \$5. March 22: Hot-Rods, 11 p.m.; \$5. March 23: The Jerry Farley Showcases, 8 p.m.; \$5. March 28: Stereotype, 11 p.m.; \$5. March 29: The Krap, 11 p.m.; \$5.

BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

Bushbab

1197 Fulton St. at Bedford Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 436-5536. March 22: Live nu-jazz band featuring The Project, 8 p.m., FREE. March 29: night of jazz and blues with Seth Estelle, 8 p.m., \$5.

Siete's Place

456 Nostrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 398-1765, www.sieteplace.org. March 22: Siete's Amazons Baraka and Blue Ark, 9 p.m., \$10. March 23: Siete's March 29: Jazz vocalist Li Phillips, 9 p.m., 10:30 p.m., \$20.

BOERUM HILL

Hank's Saloon

43 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 625-8003, www.hanksaloon.com. Saturday, Sunday: 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Kershaw and the New Jack Rambler, 10 p.m., FREE. Monday: Live band karaoke, 10 p.m., FREE. Tuesdays: Live band "Rockin' with the Rambler," 10 p.m., FREE. Wednesdays: Live band "Rockstar Karaoke," 9 p.m., FREE. March 22: The Lonesome Prairie Dogs, 8 p.m., FREE. March 23: The Lonesome Prairie Dogs, 8 p.m., FREE. Cell Block 7, The Lonesome Prairie Dogs, 8 p.m., FREE. March 28: The Lonesome Prairie Dogs, 8 p.m., FREE. March 29: The Aviation Orange, Midnite, FREE.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Last Exit Bar and Lounge

138 Union St. at 13th Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-9198, www.lastexitbar.com. Saturdays: "Kegs 'n Knockers," DJ Keg's bootylicious!, 8 p.m., FREE. Sunday: "Kegs 'n Knockers," DJ Keg's bootylicious!, 8 p.m., FREE. March 24: Pub Quiz, 9 p.m., \$5 per person; March 27: Sugartown with Colleen Crumbie, featuring Scotty Suga, 9 p.m., FREE. March 28: DJ Mike, 9 p.m., FREE. March 29: DJ Mike, 9 p.m., FREE. DJ Milky Marchester, 9 p.m., FREE.

BUSHWICK

Martick Hotel

97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Bushwick, (718) 384-2130, www.martickhotel.com.

March 22: Noodles and more, 8 p.m.; \$5. March 24: All Star Karaoke, 7 p.m., FREE. March 25: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. March 26: Great Lakes, Lungs of a Giant, 7:30 p.m., FREE. March 27: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. STBD. March 28: A-Bones and special guests, 7:30 p.m., STBD. March 29: The Boughs and special guests, 8 p.m., STBD.

Magnetic Field

97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Bushwick, (718) 384-2130, www.magneticfield.com.

March 22: Noodles and more, 8 p.m.; \$5. March 24: All Star Karaoke, 7 p.m., FREE. March 25: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. March 26: Great Lakes, Lungs of a Giant, 7:30 p.m., FREE. March 27: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. STBD. March 28: A-Bones and special guests, 7:30 p.m., STBD. March 29: The Boughs and special guests, 8 p.m., STBD.

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CARIBOU

97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Bushwick, (718) 384-2130, www.caribou.com.

March 22: Noodles and more, 8 p.m.; \$5. March 24: All Star Karaoke, 7 p.m., FREE. March 25: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. March 26: Great Lakes, Lungs of a Giant, 7:30 p.m., FREE. March 27: The Boondocks, 8 p.m., FREE. STBD. March 28: A-Bones and special guests, 7:30 p.m., STBD. March 29: The Boughs and special guests, 8 p.m., STBD.

CLOTHESLINE

97 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street in Bushwick, (718) 384-2130, www.clothesline.com.

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

Reason: The Wreckage, The Stakes For Wall Street, 7 p.m. Brooklyn, \$25-\$35, (718) 834-9350. Free.

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music — *Bengtsson and Breu*, with Braden Ingberman and Kristin M. Ingberman, Howard Gilman Opera House, 301 Ashland Place, Brooklyn, \$20-\$70. IMPACT THEATER: presents *"Molive"*, 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. See Sat., March 24.

WEDS, MARCH 26

TAKING CONTROL: Second Bay Ridge Conference on Aging presents "Fining Your Way to a Healthy Life," taken Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$10. Reservations required. (718) 748-0873. Free.

READING: Author John Sellers reads *"How the Rock Saved My Life."* Also: Dean Wareham reads *"Our Lady of Angels and the Rock."* 7 p.m. Reservations required. (718) 748-0873. Free.

STINKY CHEESE: Learn about cheese with a glass of wine. \$55. 7 p.m. Smith and Wollensky, 1000 Avenue of the Americas, 10th floor, (718) 522-1245.

CINEMA-THAT: BAM Rose Cinemas — *AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER*: Long Island University presents *"Tristan und Isolde"*. It is based on the true story of an African American who became a rock and theater for black New Yorkers. \$15. 8 p.m. Kumble Theater, corner of DeKalb Avenue and Flatbush Avenue

Exhibition. (718) 488-1644.

BARGEMUSIC: Classical music program features works by Georges, Calice, Nagakura, Handel and others. \$40. 5 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

IMPACT THEATER: presents *"Molive"*, 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. See Sat., March 24.

BAM: Bengtsson and Breu, 7:30 p.m. See Sat., March 24.



THURS., MARCH 27

PEAKER SERIES: Francis College presents Carol Bellamy, president of World Bank, and Carol Bernick, Women and Children's Global Health Challenge, 11:15 a.m. 180 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, (718) 235-1718.

REMARKABLE WOMEN: City Tech celebrates Women's History Month. Faculty and staff, as well as community members celebrate Loretta, Collette, Ross Parks and Victoria Licherman. 2 p.m. 180 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, (718) 260-5470. Free.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER: Street Gallery presents the exhibit "Isolde's Island of the Heart," 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bond Street, Brooklyn, (718) 235-1718.

AUTHOR SERIES: Kingsborough Community College presents Dr. Howard Green, author of *"The Art of War"*. Discussion focuses on wills, advance directives, protecting assets, Medicaid planning and more. 7 p.m. Kingsborough Park Slope Day Center, 1 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, (718) 235-2900. Reservations required. (\$30-\$35). Free.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER: Long Island University presents *"Tristan und Isolde"*. It is based on the true story of an African American who became a rock and theater for black New Yorkers. \$15. 8 p.m. Kumble Theater, corner of DeKalb Avenue and Flatbush Avenue

A new "Isolde's" on Saturday, March 22. BAM Rose Cinema presents a live, HD transmission of the Metropolitan Opera's *"Tristan und Isolde."* Brunch will be served beforehand in the BAM Cafe.

LEADERS FOR LATER YEARS: Presentation and questions and answers with attorney Judith D. Grimaldi of Friedman, Grimaldi & Associates. Discussion focuses on wills, advance directives, protecting assets, Medicaid planning and more. 7 p.m. Kingsborough Park Slope Day Center, 1 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, (718) 235-2900. Reservations required. (\$30-\$35). Free.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER: Street Gallery presents "Upisatata," 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

BAM: Bengtsson and Breu, 7:30 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

(2003) *"Singer in the Rain"* (1952). \$5 donation. 7 p.m., 295 Douglass Street. (718) 408-2324.

ARAB MUSIC: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet presents *"Hafsa"* featuring Lebanese singer Basit Toum and Tunisian vocalists Aliaa and Samia. 8 p.m. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight. Tarboos Cafe, 7222 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, (718) 245-0080.

GALILEO JAZZ: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet, 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

BAM: Bengtsson and Breu, 7:30 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER: Richard III, 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

BROOKLYN JAZZ: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

ROCK 'N' ROLL: Songs of the 1950s, '60s and '70s. 8 p.m. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight. Tarboos Cafe, 7222 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, (718) 245-0080.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: First Weekend. 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

SAT., MARCH 29

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

PARK SLOPE WALK: Walking tour of Park Slope and Prospect Park featuring historic homes, parks and kids. (includes lunch). Tour times are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call for location.

REVOLUTIONARY IDEA: Fort Greene Park, Brooklyn, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. American Revolution and other upheavals of that era. 1 p.m. Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn Park, (718) 722-3218. Free.

GREEN-WOOD TOUR: Walking tour to the historic architecture and people of Green-Wood Cemetery. \$15. 2 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 25th Street and Fifth Avenue. (212) 209-2000.

PERFORMANCE: GALLERY PLAYERS presents "Upisatata," translated by Drue Robinson Hagan. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$16. \$14 for seniors and children 12 and younger.

FRI., MARCH 28

FILM SERIES: Spoke the Hub presents "Dancers" Movie Night with "Pulse."

ARTISTS: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

1991 14th St. (212) 352-3104.

BAKERS: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Bengtsson and Breu," with Brazil's contemporary dance company, the Sharqiat Quartet and the Brooklyn Magam Arab. 8 p.m. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 536-4100.

ARTISTS: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

ROCK 'N' ROLL: Songs of the 1950s, '60s and '70s. 8 p.m. Saturday, 9 p.m. to midnight. Tarboos Cafe, 7222 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, (718) 245-0080.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: First Weekend. 8 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

SUN., MARCH 30

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE: Bay Ridge, 1 p.m. Parade begins in front of St. Patrick's RC Church, 9511 Fourth Avenue. (718) 238-2600. Free.

PERFORMANCE: GALLERY PLAYERS presents "Upisatata," 3 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

PEACE: Central Brooklyn Jazz Festival, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 25th Street and Fifth Avenue. (212) 209-2000.

MUSIC OFF THE WALLS: The Brooklyn Museum: Panel discussion: "Beyond the Waves: Feminist Artists from the Bronx and Brooklyn." 1 p.m. \$10. \$5 students and seniors. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. 123 Smith St. (718) 799-3116.

book on. Tuition, \$8. \$4 students and seniors, free. 12 to 16-year-olds and children 12 and younger. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 438-5000.

ARTISTS: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. "Selling the Needs of the People" at Bed-Stuy Center, 1000 Nostrand Ave. (718) 333-3300.

OPENING PARTY: As part of its Big Ideas series, Micro Museum hosts an open house. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 101, \$10. \$5 students and seniors. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. 123 Smith St. (718) 799-3116.

OTHER: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. "Answering the Call: A Celebration of Jewish and Islamic Traditions in Jewish, Christian and Islamic Brooklyn." 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 123 Smith St. (718) 799-3116.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN THEATER: Richard III, 2 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

BARGEMUSIC: The Sharqiat Quartet performs. 4 p.m. See Sat., March 29.

Philharmonic, in conjunction with the Brooklyn Museum's Middle Eastern and Islamic collection, performs a chamber music concert "Shades of Bell and Bendir" with the Sharqiat Quartet and Oceyan. \$15. \$10 members, students and seniors. 2 p.m. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 438-5000.

ARAB MUSIC: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet presents "Answering the Call: A Celebration of Jewish and Islamic Traditions in Jewish, Christian and Islamic Brooklyn." 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 123 Smith St. (718) 799-3116.

OTHER: Brooklyn Magam Arab and the Sharqiat Quartet performs. "Song Traditions in Jewish, Christian and Islamic Brooklyn." 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 123 Smith St. (718) 799-3116.

WATERMELON CARVING: The Center for Kosher Culinary Arts hosts a class in watermelon carving. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 1407 Coney Island Ave. Call for price. (718) 234-2444.

HOPE TEA PARTY: In honor of Women's History Month, Fort Greene Visitor's Center hosts a tea party with samples of tea from around the world, and Washington Street. (718) 722-3218.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM: Panel discussion: "Beyond the Waves: Feminist Artists from the Bronx and Brooklyn." 1 p.m. \$10. \$5 students and seniors, free to members and children 12 and younger. 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 538-2000.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in *New Days in Brooklyn*, please give us two weeks notice or send your listing by e-mail: calendar@brooklynpaper.com; by mail: 60 Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

Lutheran celebrates 125 years of service

Lutheran Medical Center

Lutheran HealthCare wrapped up a special Mission Week celebration highlighted by visits from the presidents of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz. The annual event helped to celebrate Lutheran's

125 years of continuing the mission and service of its founder Sister Elisabeth Fedde, who created what is now known as Lutheran HealthCare, in 1883.

"Mission Week is an annual celebration that helps underscore our rich faith-based heritage, values, mission, and ongoing service to the Brooklyn

community," says Rev. Don Stiger, SVP for Mission and Spiritual Care. "Since Lutheran HealthCare began in Brooklyn, it has been one of the most culturally, religiously, ethnically and linguistically diverse communities in the world, and we take great honor in re-dedicating ourselves, each year, to providing the best possible high

quality care to everyone of every faith, and every culture." The week's highlights included visits by the Rev. Hansen and Markowitz on Feb. 27.

Bishop Hansen commended Lutheran's dedication to continuing Sister Fedde's mission of serving the community. "She remains a symbol of all of you who continue to serve," said Hansen.

"When I travel through the world, I will be able to say I visited a place where God has treated people by the virtue of their humanity," Hansen continued. "Lutheran has been compared to a gem. Like a gem, it has many facets and a light, the country in a new health care pathway."

Markowitz also addressed those present and presented the best possible high

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Pols not in any rush to vote 'yes' on congestion pricing

Mayor Bloomberg's ambitious and controversial plan to charge drivers \$8 to enter Manhattan's central business district will come to a vote next month in the City Council, where it faces a very bumpy road.

Charles Barron (D-Brownsville)

Will vote no: "I am opposed to the plan because it is a regressive tax on those who can afford it least. And I think it will create congestion [and] turn the outer boroughs into a parking lot. And I don't think the MTA can be trusted with the money — it needs more diversity on the board."

Bill DeBlasio (D-Park Slope)

Undecided: "The process around congestion pricing has been woefully inadequate. This is a dramatic change and it is lacking a real public process. I am deeply concerned that the plan will not be substantively improved prior to the plan's implementation."

Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge)

Will vote no: "I am also worried about the plan's effect on low-income commuters and seniors. Lastly, it's hard talk about charging commuters upwards of \$2,000 in additional fees every year when the economy is suffering. People need more money in their pockets, not less."

Eric Martin Dilan (D-East New York)

Will vote no: "It is ridiculous to charge people to drive into the central business district in Manhattan. There are parts of Brooklyn that are severely congested, and no one is talking about that. And to charge people [in some neighborhoods] \$10 a year for a residential parking permit is nuts! It's free now. I also think New Jersey residents are not paying their fair share under the mayor's plan."

Mathieu Eugene (D-Crown Heights)

Undecided: "He's met with everyone — the mayor, other officials and his constituents — but he is worried that it would end up causing more congestion and pollution in his district," said spokesman Joe Placide. "But he appreciates the mass transit component. He's weighing it all."

Lewis Fidler (D-Canarsie)

Will vote no: "I don't believe that the way to pay for mass transit is to decide who can and

according to our survey of all 17 Brooklyn councilmembers. If the vote was today, Brooklyn would be 8-1 against the plan (with six undecideds and two councilmembers who did not return our calls).

who can not come into the central business district of the city by discriminating on the basis of economics. That's one of 50 reasons. Number two? It's ineffective. If congestion pricing works perfectly, people will stop driving and it will no longer raise money. I favor a one-third-of-one-percent regional payroll tax. It would raise triple the money that congestion pricing would raise and share the burden across the entire region."

Simcha Feller (D-Borough Park)

Will vote no: "Until there are more details on exactly what Brooklyn will get from money generated from congestion pricing, I cannot support this plan."

Darlene Mealy (D-East New York)

Did not return repeated calls.

Domenic Recchia (D-Bensonhurst)

Undecided.

Kendall Stewart (D-Flatbush)

Will vote no: "The people from New Jersey must pay, too. I do agree that we need to find a way to get more buses, but parking permits are another no. They're another tax as far as I'm concerned. And once they put a fee on the permit, the fee will go up."

Albert Vann (D-Bedford-Stuyvesant)

Did not return repeated calls.

David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights)

Will vote yes: "Permanent gridlock in Manhattan will make it harder to keep our city the financial capital of the world. It, along with improvements in mass transit, will help solve the problem."

Michael Nelson (D-Sheephead Bay)

Will vote no: "It hasn't been proven to me yet that it will help the environment enough to

ON THE RECORD

DECONSTRUCTION

Pier clearing begins for 'Park'



Workers began demolition last Thursday of Pier 1 along the Brooklyn Heights waterfront, the site of the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park. Photo by Michael S. Lockett

By Mike McLaughlin The Brooklyn Paper

Demolition began — for real, this time — at the proposed "Brooklyn Bridge Park" last week, even as opponents went to court to battle the housing and open space development.

The demolition began last Thursday on Pier 1, just south of the Brooklyn Bridge, without any fanfare — a surprise, considering there have been no public hearings since the city in 2001 even thought the \$5-acre parkland, condo and retail development along the DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights waterfront never got underway.

After 30 minutes of arguments before the appellate panel, members of the Defense Fund left court feeling optimistic.

"I think the court is sympathetic to our argument," said attorney Michael Adams. "I think the arguments went well," said Murray Adams. "The judges knew exactly what they were looking for. We really did get a day in court."

Yards development

The Defense Fund is appealing a November, 2006 ruling that dismissed both those arguments.

"While this court is sympathetic to petitioners' position ... this is a disagreement of philosophy, not law," wrote State Supreme Court Judge Lawrence Knipel. Referring to the state's "strong interest in the protection of the land and maintenance of the park," Knipel added that the government's "determination that the Brooklyn Bridge Park should be established, but not supported by the park's expenses, may be philosophically repugnant, but is certainly not unreasonably or unlawfully."

The demolition began last Friday after the city, state officials faced the Brooklyn Bridge Park Defense Fund in an appellate court to argue that the city's plan to clear Pier 1 and build a park is illegal and that the project's environmental impact statement was flawed because it inadequately analyzed traffic impact from the Atlantic

He Wood if he could

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

Shahn Andersen, who is working with Wood to transform the Downing Street building into 11 two-bedroom apartments (including one for Wood and his wife, Cynthia).

"The Department of Buildings gave Arthur some leeway for building the original building," said Andersen. "We will have to pay a reduced version of that fine before we get a certificate of occupancy [for the restored building]."

"It's extortion," Wood said last Friday during a press conference in front of the Brooklyn Supreme Court. "The whole project is dead in the water right now."

No it's not, said developer



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